

39. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said sending said request for data to said intermediary device comprises:

including said first port as part of an address string in addressing said intermediary device.

40. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said sending a request for data from said intermediary device to said content provider comprises:

including said first port as part of an address string in addressing said content provider.

REMARKS

Claim 3 has been amended to include the elements of claim 1, which has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 5, 6, 8, and 9 have been amended to replace the term "server" with the term "requesting device." Support for the term "requesting device" appears, for example, in Fig. 14. It is not intended that this replacement narrow the scope of the claims. Claim 8 has been amended to correct a typographical error by changing the dependency from claim 5 to claim 7.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A

3. (Amended Once Herein) [The method as described in claim 2 and further comprising:] A method of providing an address, said method comprising:

providing a requesting device coupled to a network;

providing an address, said address comprising a protocol identifier;

providing a port identifier, said port identifier operable to identify a port on said requesting device;

including said port identifier as part of said address;

transmitting said address from said requesting device onto said network;

receiving said address at an intermediate device; and

addressing a data provider device while including said port identifier as part of an address string.

4. (As Filed) The method as described in claim 3 and further comprising:

transmitting a message from said data provider to the port of said requesting device identified by said port identifier.

5. (Amended Once Herein) A method of providing an address, comprising:

providing a protocol identifier;

providing an IP identifier;

providing a [server] requesting device identifier; and

providing a [server] requesting device port identifier.

6. (Amended Once Herein) The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

coupling said protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said [server] requesting device identifier and said [server] requesting device port identifier.

7. (As Filed) The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:  
providing a file identifier.

8. (Amended Once Herein) The method as described in claim [5] 7 and further comprising:

coupling said protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said [server] requesting device identifier, said [server] requesting device port identifier, and said file identifier.

9. (Amended Once Herein) The method as described in claim 8 and further comprising:

organizing said address structure so that said port identifier is adjacent said [server] requesting device identifier.

22. (New) A data structure for a device on a network, said data structure comprising:

a protocol identifier field;  
an internet protocol identifier field for use in addressing an intermediary device;  
a requesting device identifier field; and  
a requesting device port identifier field.

23. (New) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said internet protocol identifier field is located between said protocol identifier field and said requesting device identifier field.

24. (New) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said requesting device identifier field is located between said protocol identifier field and said internet protocol identifier field.

25. (New) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said requesting device port identifier field is located adjacent said requesting device identifier field.

26. (New) The data structure as described in claim 22 and further comprising a file identifier field for identifying a file stored on a data provider device.

27. (New) A computer data signal comprising:  
a protocol identifier segment;  
an internet protocol identifier segment for use in addressing an intermediary device;  
a requesting device identifier segment; and  
a requesting device port identifier segment.

28. (New) The computer data signal as described in claim 27 and further comprising:

a file identifier segment for identifying a file stored on a data provider device.

29. (New) The computer data signal as described in claim 27 wherein said requesting device port identifier segment is operable for designating a port on a requesting device from which a request for data originated.

30. (New) An apparatus for use in a network, said apparatus comprising:  
a computer operable to provide an address for addressing a device on said network;  
code for use by said computer operable to provide a protocol identifier field;  
code for use by said computer operable to provide an internet protocol identifier field for use in addressing an intermediary device;  
code for use by said computer operable to provide a requesting device identifier field; and  
code for use by said computer operable to provide a requesting device port identifier field.

31. (New) The apparatus as described in claim 30 and further comprising:  
code for use by said computer operable to provide a file identifier field.

32. (New) The apparatus as described in claim 31 and further comprising:  
code for use by said computer operable to configure said protocol identifier field,  
said internet protocol identifier field, said requesting device identifier field, said requesting  
device port identifier field, and said file identifier field as a single address.

33. (New) A method of requesting data on a network, said method comprising:  
providing a requesting device;  
sending a request for data to an intermediary device by utilizing a first protocol,  
said first protocol associated with a first port;  
receiving said request for data at said intermediary device;  
interpreting said request for data at said intermediary device;  
sending a second request for data from said intermediary device to a content  
provider by utilizing a second protocol, said second protocol associated with a second port;  
receiving said second request for data from said intermediary device at said  
content provider;  
obtaining said data;  
sending a message from said content provider to said first port of said requesting  
device while bypassing said intermediary device.

34. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said first protocol is  
HTTP.

35. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said message comprises  
said data requested by said requesting device.

36. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said first port is different  
from said second port.

37. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said sending said message from said content provider to said first port of said requesting device comprises sending said message according to a protocol that differs from said second protocol used to send the request for data from said intermediary device to said content provider.

38. (New) The method as described in claim 32 wherein said content provider obtains said data from a second content provider.

39. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said sending said request for data to said intermediary device comprises:

including said first port as part of an address string in addressing said intermediary device.

40. (New) The method as described in claim 33 wherein said sending a request for data from said intermediary device to said content provider comprises:

including said first port as part of an address string in addressing said content provider.